

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANILA 04643 221011Z

21

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 009428

R 220716Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2867

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 4643

EXDIS

EA/PHL FOR AMBASSADOR SULLIVAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR

SUBJECT: AMBUSH KILLING OF THREE USN OFFICERS

FOLLOWING IS REPEAT COMNAVBASE

SUBIC 191044Z APR SENT ACTION CINCPACFLT INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA,

CINCPAC H/W REPEATED FOR

YOUR INFO:

QUOTE CONFIDENTIAL SPECAT

SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR ADM WEISNER INFO AMB SULLIVAN

AND ADM GAYLER FROM SHELTON

DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS

AMBUSH KILLINGS THREE USN OFFICERS

A. MY 150358Z APR 74

B. MY 171452Z APR 74

1. FOLLOWING INFO PROVIDED TO FURTHER UPDATE SUBJ INCIDENT.

2. A SECOND ON-SCENE INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY NISO PERS

ON 18 APRIL DISCLOSED:

A. FIVE AMBUSH POSITIONS WERE NOTED ALONG

THE EAST SIDE OF

ROAD (THE JEEP WAS TRAVELLING NORTH). SHELL CASING OF VARIOUS

CALIBER AMMO WAS RECOVERED FROM THESE POSITIONS WITH EXCEPTION

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PAGE 02 MANILA 04643 221011Z

OF THE POSITION FARTHEST FROM JEEP WHERE TWO CIGARETTE BUTTS

WERE RECOVERED. THE FIVE "POSITIONS" COULD HAVE BEEN PREPARED IN SEVERAL MINUTES TIME; THEIR EXISTENCE SIGNIFIES THAT THE AMBUSH WAS PLANNED IN ADVANCE, ALBEIT PERHAPS ONLY AN HOUR BEFORE.

B. THERE IS EVIDENCE OF WEAPONS FIRE APPROX FIFTEEN-TWENTY FEET DOWN THE RAVINE BEYOND THE LOCATION WHERE THE BODIES WERE RECOVERED. THIS SUGGESTS THAT CAPT MITCHELL AND CDR DOBLER WERE ABLE TO EXIT THE JEEP AND GET OVER TO THE WEST SIDE OF THE ROAD UNDER THEIR OWN POWER BEFORE THE FATAL SHOTS HIT.

C. TWENTY-SIX CAL .30 M1 CARBINE CASINGS PLUS TWO CAL .30 LIVE ROUNDS WERE RECOVERED FROM ONE FIRING POSITION LOCATED AT THE RIGHT REAR QUARTER. TOTAL AMMO RECOVERED IS:

(1) TWENTY-NINE CAL .30 M1 CARBINE CASINGS PLUS FOUR LIVE CAL .30 ROUNDS.

(2) THREE 12 GAUGE SHOTGUN CASINGS

(3) THREE EPMPY CASINGS

(4) THREE 5.56 CASINGS

(5) FOUR CAL. .380 CASINGS

IT IS BELIEVED THAT THERE WERE TWO CARBINE FIRING POSITIONS.

3. FIVE OFFICERS FROM THE OFFICE OF CIVIL RELATIONS, HQ AFP CAMP AGUINALDO, ARRIVED MAKINAYA (LOCAL PC HDQTRS) TODAY. THEIR MISSION IS TO "CONTACT AND EVICT THE SQUATTERS FROM THE NAVAL BASE". THEY'LL COMMENCE OPERATIONS ON 22 APRIL IN MANIGA (NEAR NAVMAG).

4. FURTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS WILL BE REPORTED AS OCCURRING.

5. VERY RESPECTFULLY AND WAR REGARDS. UNQUOTE
PURNELL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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